

VZCZCXYZ0001  
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBO #3497 2612223  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
R 172223Z SEP 08  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 4803  
INFO RHEHNSC/NSC WASHDC  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC  
RHEHOND/DIRONDCP WASHDC  
RUEAWJC/DEPT OF JUSTICE WASHDC  
RUWDQAC/US INTERDICTION COORD WASHDC  
RUEAHLA/DHS WASHDC//ICE/CNO//  
RHMFISS/CDR USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHDC  
RUMIJTF/DIRJIATF SOUTH KEY WEST FL

UNCLAS BOGOTA 003497

SIPDIS  
SENSITIVE

DEPARTMENT FOR INL/LP

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [SNAR](#) [PREL](#) [MOPS](#) [MASS](#) [PGOV](#) [CO](#)  
SUBJECT: AIR BRIDGE DENIAL: AUGUST 2008 PROGRAM UPDATE

REF: 2003 STATE 265910

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY. This is the monthly Air Bridge Denial (ABD) activity report for August, 2008, as required by Reftel. The Government of Colombia (GOC) sorted 6,612 tracks during August. Four were Unknown, Assumed Suspect (UAS). There were no Phase I/II/III events. There was one event during a mission in Support of Suppression of Illegal Maritime Traffic (SSIMT) that ended in a law enforcement end game with one Go-Fast boat impounded with 65 kilos of cocaine and 373 kilos of marihuana. Three crewmembers were arrested. END SUMMARY.

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Tracks  
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¶2. (SBU) In August 2008, there were 6,612 air tracks over Colombia in August of which four were declared Unknown, Assumed Suspect (UAS). Host Nation responded to all four and two were not located by the tracker aircraft. The other two were visually identified over the Caribbean and the information was passed to Central American Law Enforcement Agencies. One of these was located in Guatemala and impounded by the authorities. Colombian Air Force and Navy coordinated to impound a Go-Fast vessel in the Pacific Ocean with 373 kilos of marihuana, 65 kilos of cocaine, and three weapons. Three crewmembers of the illegal vessel were arrested.

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SSIMT  
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¶3. (SBU) On August 24, 2008, an SR-26 on SSIMT patrol sighted a vessel in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of the Colombian Choco department. A COLNAV asset was directed to the Go-Fast, which was impounded along with 373 kilos of marihuana, 65 kilos of cocaine, and three weapons. Three crewmembers of the illegal vessel were arrested.

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Flight Operations  
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¶3. (SBU) In August 2008, the Citations flew 186 hours in 95 sorties with a 60% OR rate. Of the 95 sorties, 57 were for GOC ABD intelligence gathering and patrolling; eight for training; 12 were for operational support; nine were for maritime patrolling, and nine were in reaction to GOC-provided information. The SR-26 aircraft 5741 flew 55 hours in 31 sorties with a 91% OR rate. Twenty four SR-26 sorties were in support of ABD, of which 20 were maritime

missions. Seven sorties were for non-ABD purposes.

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